





# The Bethel Courier: A Home Paper

## The Bethel Courier.

FRIDAY MORNING, FEB. 23, 1860.

### EDITORIAL JOTTINGS.

DEAR PEB.—While on our return from Augusta, we stopped at Topsham. This quiet village has improved very much in the external neatness of its dwellings. We had the honor and the pleasure of addressing the Topsham Farmer's Club in the evening. They have instituted a course of lectures, the proceeds of which are to go to arduous purchasing a Library. These have been well attended, and afford at a cheap rate a vast amount of instruction and entertainment. A lapse of a dozen years reminds us as we meet old acquaintances, that we too are passing away.

Among our auditors we at once recognized brother Tenny of the Brunswick Telegraph. We couldn't mistake him among a thousand. He has two as keen looking eyes as any one mortal ought to have; not so sharp and piercing as we have seen, but such as can readily look through most men. These his proboscis, so well shaped and hanging down so gracefully, constantly arrests one's attention. The contour of the face where virtuous ought to go in expressive of earnestness of purpose, while his lifetime propensities would be proud enough could they see the lower half of his face. We called on Bro. T. the next day and had a pleasant chat with him. We think him on the whole quite equal to Bro. Rowell, in good cheer and in personal appearance, while his paper is one of the richest in the State.

Among the attractions in Topsham is the Franklin School for boys, in charge of Mr. Johnson and his accomplished lady. He has a very beautiful situation with every facility for his family of boys. We were delighted with the cheerfulness which everywhere pervaded the establishment. The school is in a most flourishing condition, and well worthy the confidence of parents who are desirous of sending their children to such an institution.

We could not resist the opportunity of calling at the lecture room of Prof. Cleveland. We never entered it before without seeing the many form of the learned Professor, and it seemed to us as though we might expect to see, at least, his ghost, rising up before the circular table over which he had performed so many thousand experiments. Most fortunately his mantle has fallen on one who will give new life to that department, and who will be a valuable acquisition to the two few scientific men of our State. The high standing of the college demands a liberal appropriation to the apparatus and other matters pertaining to that department.

—We heard a good anecdote the other day of an intelligent Englishman who came to Oxford County a year or two since, and bought a farm. He had been an over-seer in a factory, and knew nothing of the mysteries of farming. When buying time came, he went to the village to buy him a scythe, engaged a neighbor to hang it for him. He went out early one morning to mow. He labored hard for an hour and a half and returned to the house with a woe-begone look, and said that he had not mowed a single swath, when a neighbor admonished him that his scythe had never been ground. The man thought that as he bought a new razor it was already sharp, the same reasoning ought to hold good with his bright looking scythe. We ought to say that he is now one of our most industrious farmers.

ELECTION OF SPEAKER. Ex Geo. Pennington was elected Speaker on Wed. by one majority.

### Weather for January.

Highest thermometer, 16th.	52°
Lowest " 2d,	13
Average for the month,	20
" for Jan. last year,	24
" for past 5 years,	19
Amount of snow, 5 inches.	11

Bethel, Feb. 23, 1860.

## Musical Convention at Yarmouth.

The first annual session of the Cumberland Co. Musical Association was held at the Baptist Church in Yarmouth during the week commencing Jan. 16th. A Teacher's Class was formed under the direction of E. C. Farrington of Lewiston Falls, assisted by E. A. Blanchard of Cumberland. The weather was unusually favorable, and the attendance large. Every thing seemed to conspire to render the occasion one of interest and profit.

The course of instruction was such as would be of real practical benefit to Teachers, and singers, generally. It included exercises upon the Major, Minor and Chromatic Scales, intonation and respiration, while particular attention was given to proper enunciation, and rendering tastefully and effectively whatever was sung. It included exercises upon the Major, Minor and Chromatic Scales, intonation and respiration, while particular attention was given to proper enunciation, and rendering tastefully and effectively whatever was sung. It included exercises upon the Major, Minor and Chromatic Scales, intonation and respiration, while particular attention was given to proper enunciation, and rendering tastefully and effectively whatever was sung.

The compactness, excellent modulation and delivery of the broad volume of sound which this class was capable of producing, with such precision, and unity of expression, testified both to their own skill, and the faithfulness of their director.

A Miscellaneous Concert in aid of the Association, was given on Thursday eve., in which was exhibited a good deal of talent and skill in execution. On Friday evening the oratorio of "Esther the Beautiful Queen" was given. This oratorio contains a very pleasing variety, and seems admirably adapted to furnish an entertaining Concert, and become a favorite among the lovers of Music. Both Concerts were liberally patronized, and received with evident satisfaction.

At the close of the Concert Friday evening the Committee on Resolutions was called upon to report. A series was presented, of which we append the following: (omitting the preamble and several Res. on account of space.)

Resolved, That we regard the perfect success which has attended this session of our convention, as a sure evidence of an increased interest in the cultivation of Sacred Music throughout this community.

Resolved, That it is the duty of each member of the Association to lend his individual aid in strengthening and perpetuating the organization, &c. at its results, the demand for a higher style of execution in Sacred Music among our Choirs, may be fully met.

Resolved, That we highly appreciate the labors of E. C. Farrington, as a musical Director during the present session of our Convention; and that our thanks are due him for the patience with which he has borne with our imperfect imitations of his polished examples, and for the thoroughness of his instruction in the nice rendering of Poetry as applied to Music.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention are due to Mr. E. A. Blanchard, our gentlemanly and talented Pianist, whose untiring efforts have contributed so largely to our improvement in this ennobling Art.

Resolved, That a hearty vote of thanks be tendered to the several ladies and gentlemen of this Convention, who have endured our sittings from day to day with cheerful songs; especially to Mrs. A. Grant of So. Paris, Miss Thompson of Bethel, Mrs. Blanchard of Yarmouth, the Misses Smith of Lewiston, Mr. Littlefield of Auburn and the "Cumberland Bards." Also to Mr. L. W. Ballard of Lewiston, for his finished accompaniment upon the Piano.

Resolved, That the marked success which has characterized this, our second meeting of the Association, a success fully equal to our highest anticipations—it due in a great measure,

to Messrs. Hildmont & Sweetser, whose laudable and energetic efforts in collecting together the musical talent in this, and adjoining towns, is sufficient proof of their earnestness in the cause; and that to them, in an especial manner, are due the thanks of the community at large; and, Resolved, further, That we regard this as but the confirmation of a settled conviction, that, through the efficiency of such an organization, Sacred Music will attain to that lofty standard of perfection, to which, by its elevating influence it is so appropriately and extensively employed as a part of Sabbath worship;—and that by a higher culture here, we may become better fitted to join the Celestial Choir where "Congregations never break up" and "Sabbaths have no end."

These Resolutions were unanimously adopted by rising, and it was then voted to adjourn, "sine die."

H. N. NEWHALL.

ERRATA.—In our notice of the death of a young lady belonging in Andover from the falling of the Pemberton Mills, last week, we should have used the name of Stevens instead of Smith.

PUB. DOC.—HON. JOHN J. PERRY will please accept our thanks for valuable documents.

RESCUED FROM BARRAKEN. The Sydney Morning Herald gives an account of the rescue of two European girls from Frazer Island, believed to be the only survivors out of all the passengers of the wrecked ship Sea Belle. They were taken from the natives of the Island on the 22d of Oct.—were found sixty miles inland. The Herald says, "The girls appeared to be about the respective ages of fifteen and sixteen years; their appearance is heart-rendering; their bodies, emaciated from suffering and exposure to the weather, and covered with a coating of hair; the skin, stained by their torturers to ashy white with their own, has become spotted and wrinkled, as if from old age; the nose had been flattened by force; the distorted and vacant stare of fillet has left these poor creatures scarcely in appearance human, and, although clothed gradually to recognize such things as they must have been in the habit of seeing hourly before they fell into the hands of the natives, their acquaintance with their mother tongue is, as yet, apparently quite gone." Other Europeans are believed to be prisoners of the blacks on the Frazer Island.

There are about one thousand Indians in this State, 475 Penobscots, and about the same number of Quodians. They are slowly fading away, and each year gives them a smaller number. The Augusta correspondent of the Boston Journal says:—

They have received for the last dozen years about \$6500 a year from the State, exclusive of some \$3000 per annum for educational purposes.—They generally favor schools now, though it was at first very difficult to establish them among them. A few of their number still oppose them, for like their pale faced brethren, they are divided into parties on almost all subjects. They have run-trunking and temperate Indians, education and anti education men—in fact Old Fagies and Young America on all subjects, and are very much like the rest of us.

THE COTTON BALE STORY. It is the current report and belief that at the battle of New Orleans Gen. Jackson's men formed a brek: stow of cotton bales, which aided greatly to decide the turn of fortune on that crucial day. The New Orleans Delta, in noticing the recent death of Gen. John B. Planche, who was engaged in the battle, says that a few bales were used by some young soldiers to increase the light and breadth of the parapet in front of them, while others were used to form the embrasures for the guns; but as soon as Gen. Jackson discovered this circumstance, and that the cotton bales endangered the strength of the works, and exposed the ammunition to explosion by the flying particles of burning ball, he ordered Gen. Planche to pitch them into the river, and it was done.

The sum of \$2075 was contributed in Fall River in aid of the sufferers at Lawrence.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—The dead letters instead of being returned here within six months, here-to-for, are now returned within half that period of time, thus proportionately facilitating the restoration of valuables to their owners.

No proposition has been made by Spain for the settlement of our claims against her, but her disposition as secretly expressed, is considered favorable to that result.

THE LATEST DOINGS. A well dressed man called at a grocery in Philadelphia a day or two ago, and inquired after a late attendance there, being informed that the individual had gone to California, he expressed regret, saying he owed him \$20 which he wished to pay. The storekeeper said he would forward the money, to which the stranger assented, and handed over a fifty dollar bill, receiving thirty dollars in change. The fifty dollar bill was subsequently ascertained to be counterfeit.

Last week a lady was shopping in Broadway, N. Y., when she was accosted by a respectable looking woman who handed her a letter, telling her she had dropped it. The lady was confident she had not dropped any letter, and told the woman so, but the latter insisted that she saw it drop. The lady looked it over only to be convinced that it was not hers, and gave it back to the woman, who apologized for troubling her. On entering a store the lady missed her port monnaie. It had been abstracted from her pocket during the colloquy about the letter. Luckily there was but little money in it.

The Union states that about two o'clock on Thursday morning the house of Mr. Wm. Noble in Charleston was consumed by fire, and his son, Jesse Noble, aged 17 years, perished in the flames. The fire is supposed to have caught in the kitchen, where there was a loaded gun which was discharged on the flames reaching it. The report awakened the oldest son, James, who instantly sprang from the bed and dragged out his brother Jesse, who was sleeping with him. He then rushed to the rescue of his mother and children, supposing that Jesse had followed him. There he saved by taking them out of a window. No sooner was the rescue complete than Jesse was in bed; but the house was then one broad sheet of flame, and an unfortunate boy had perished. He had probably become bewildered in attempting to find his way out of the room through the smoke.

SHOCKING EFFECTS OF SKATING. A young lady who indulged in an afternoon exercise on skates on Jamaica Pond during the very cold snap, very imprudently had her skates straps so tightened as to prevent any circulation of the blood in the feet below the ankles. The consequence was that upon taking them off to return home, her feet were both found to be frozen. Although every effort was made by the physicians to restore them to a normal state, one of them were so badly frozen as to render amputation necessary to prevent mortification ensuing. The young lady is a resident of Boston, is about 19 years of age, and her misfortune is felt very keenly by herself and friends.

ACCIDENT IN A LEWISTON FACTORY. By the breaking of the elevator-chain at the Bagging Mill this morning, three men were seriously injured—several others more or less. Rogers had an arm broken; Collins, a watchman, had his ribs crushed. A man named not known, had his ankle broken, another had his head thrown out of joint. They were being lowered by the elevator when the chain broke. Others not serious injured. None were fatally injured, but Collins is in a bad condition. There was no blame attached to any one. Jour. 24.

A large slave vessel, lately captured by the British cruisers and taken to St. Helena. One was the Ameri an brig Lillie Mills, which was fully equipped for the slave trade, but the crew took the last and occupied to the shore when they saw the British war steamer approaching. The other was a beautiful Spanish craft. Both vessels were destroyed, as is required by the English laws. The Portland Advertiser says that the Lillie Mills formerly belonged to that port, and was owned in part by Messrs. Ycton & Hale. She was wrecked on the coast of Cuba in the latter part of 1856, and sold to parties in Cuba, by whom she was seized, probably for the trade in which she was engaged when taken by the British cruisers as above stated.

A striking eight years of age was engaged in the manufacture of a stool, which, on account of the disparity in the length of the legs, refused to stand up. After fruitless efforts to make it do so, "Mother," said he, "does the Lord see everything?" "Yes, my son."

"Well," replied the young hopeful, "I guess he'll laugh when he sees this stool."

Godfrey for February is the book for the ladies. We cannot get hold of it still they have read it. It has an excellent piece of music from Alice Hawthorne.

John Shaw a young man about twenty years of age, who was very active in saving life on the night of the terrible disaster at Lawrence, has received through Major Saunders and Gen. Oliver, two \$10 gold pieces, the gift of a gentleman of Boston. Mr. Shaw rescued six persons.

Mr. Steven Thurston, of Madison, died on Monday last, at the advanced age of 99 years. He was the oldest person in the vicinity. His son Col. William Thurston of the same town, recently died aged about 75.

### ITEMS.

The underground railroad has been set to work in the Cherokee Nation. A large stampede of negroes was attempted from the nation to Mexico; but the chiefs, having been informed by a faithful negro of the movement, collected their warriors under the pretense of going on a war trail against the Comanches, and arrested the fugitives.

The Dutch Government has commenced the work of emancipation of slaves in Java. The slaves are to serve an apprenticeship of six years' duration, commencing January 1, 1860, and the owners are to receive 150 francs for a slave worth 1000 francs—that is, fifteen per cent. upon his value.

We have advices from Havana to the 25th inst. The war feeling is, if possible, on the increase, and much enthusiasm is manifested. The papers publish receipts, by the commission having the matter in charge, of large donations in money, tobacco, cigars, &c., for the use of the Spanish troops in Morocco.

A most revolting system for destroying deer has been adopted by Canadian hunters. They place traps where the animal resorts to browse, and the instant a deer springs a trap, a scythe blade attached thereto strikes the leg and either cuts it off or breaks it and the poor animal is traced by means of the blood and the trap, which still adheres to the broken member. A meeting has been held at Kingston, to petition Parliament so to amend the game laws as to provide for punishing the act specified above.

Another barrel excitement was created at Chicago on the 25th inst., a barrel containing a dead human body having been discovered at the depot of the Galena Railroad. The body was that of a young man named Don Tracy, who had died in Algonquin with a disease of the hip joint, and had been stolen after interment by Dr. E. M. Winslow, and shipped for a medical institution at Ann Arbor, Michigan. The body was missed by the friends of the deceased, who telegraphed to Chicago and recovered it.

The Vermont Freeman is informed that a German peard named Sterns was killed by a bear in Stowe week before last. It is said that the bear met him as he was crossing a field, and in the fight that ensued, the unfortunate man's legs were nearly gnawed off.

The Farmer will cease was concluded at Exeter on Saturday. The jury did not agree—ten being in favor of sustaining the will, and two against it.

MANUMISSION OF A BEAUTIFUL SLAVE. A young female, of almost classic beauty, about 18 years old, so nearly white that the tinge of African blood in her veins was scarcely perceptible, and perfect enough in form and feature to have served as a model for a Proximita or a Powers, was yesterday manumitted in the Probate Court by a well known New Orleans merchant. Her countenance was beaming, expressive, and intelligent, her dark eyes brilliant, melting and tender, and her general appearance quite spiritual, owing partly to the worm of consumption that was evidently feeding on her cheek. She was elegantly attired, and in the point of personal appearance would have contrasted favorably with the most fashionable Fourth street belle. Cincinnati Enquirer, Jan. 22.

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A special dispatch from Cincinnati announces the death of Prof. James P. Eddy, of the National Observatory at Washington.

The State House being erected in Columbia, S. C., is said to be the finest structure of the kind in the Union.

There are about \$3,000,000 in possession of the Post Office Department but which cannot be paid out till an appropriation bill shall be passed by Congress for that purpose.

Those who put up pressed hay in the State of New York, are liable to little mistakes. It is not uncommon to find a three-hundred pound bale of hay bound with forty or fifty pounds of green wood, and a boulder or two inside. The Legislature is going to regulate this matter.

The Gospel Banner gives a recipe for preventing cream from rising on milk. It is to buy the article of the milkman!

A HEAVY PORKER. Adam McCulloch, of Kennebunkport, has killed a hog, twenty months old, which weighed 789 lbs. after being dressed.

Mrs. Dunham, the oldest person in Paris, died on Saturday last. She was 97 years old.

Prentice says there are two periods when the house does nothing. "One is before the holidays, and the other after."

The hay crop of Maine averages 1,000,000 tons, worth \$10,000,000 per annum, and the amount of pasture is as much more. Grass is and always must be the staple crop of Maine. Our long winters do it good, and not harm.

The Secretary of the Interior, has applied to the Sac and Fox Indians for a full Indian war-dress, to be presented through the French Minister to Louis Napoleon. The tribe has most generously respond with a splendid equipment; scalping knife, tomahawk, peace-pipe, and various other articles of savage warfare. No expense has been spared by way of ornament and decoration.

It is now announced that Stephens and Hazzett, two of the Harper's Ferry conspirators, will be tried at the special February term of the Jefferson, Va., County Court.

The prospect of the grape crop in Connecticut next year is reported favorable. Last year 200,000 gallons of wine were made.

The last dry goods palace erected in New York cost \$325,000, and covers over half an acre of ground. It has three fronts, on Broadway, Worth, and Peel streets.

Lola Montez is lecturing in Connecticut. It was she who said that over the grave of many females might it with truth be written, "died of too many petticoats." An exchange suggests that many men has died of the same disease.

Col. Ely Moore, Register of the Land Office in Leocompton, Kansas, died on the 26th inst.

The dwelling house, sheds, and corn house of J. Barney Shephardson, at Green River, Vt., were destroyed by fire on Monday morning, the 23d, with most of their contents.

The New York Ladies' Mount Vernon Association acknowledge the receipt of \$4 18, from the boys of the News Boys' Lodging House, for the Mount Vernon fund.

A correspondent of the Pontiac (Mich.) Jacksonian says that the shock of an earthquake was felt at Farmington, on the 9th inst. It seemed to travel from Southeast to Northwest.

A letter from Lake Superior, dated Jan. 8, reports the snow four feet deep in the mining districts. The health of the people is good, and business matters are moving along prosperously for the season. All the mines are reported to be doing well.

## The Bethel Courier.

MAILS.—Mails close as follows:—10 A. M. to Portland, 1 to Island Pond. 4 P. M.

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE OF TRAINS.—Arriving train leaves Bethel for Portland at 10 A. M. Departing—arrives from Portland at 1 P. M.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.—Sabbath at 11 o'clock, A. M., and 1 P. M. In the following churches:—at Congl., Rev. Mr. Wheaton; at Bethel, Rev. Mr. Garrison; at Universalist, Rev. Mr. Garrison.

MEETINGS FOR PRAYER.—On Wed. evenings at 6 1/2 o'clock, at the vestry hall in class, Tuesday evenings. Prayer Meeting Saturday evenings.

At a meeting of the Maine Board of Agriculture at Augusta, the following topic was discussed: The Composition of Soils, and the preparation and application of manures. We take the following from the Farmer.

Dr. Tuck did not design to speak on the whole topic, but would confine his remarks to the composition of the soil, reserving the preparation and composition of manures for others. He had found but few farmers who comprehended the nature of soils, or who realized what the term meant.—They do not clearly comprehend the meaning of the word element. He defined it as something that cannot ordinarily be changed in character except in combination with another element. Gold is an element. If it is hammer it, and so long as it has no other element combined with it, it is unchanged; but if you unite another element, oxygen, with it, it becomes a dull, unattractive looking substance. An element cannot wear out. A particle of oxygen may leave a rock and unite with a plant, and leaving the plant enter an animal, and leaving that, be as good as ever to unite again with the parent rock. It may thus change its appearance by combination, but can never be destroyed. He held up a quartz crystal, farmers sometimes call it a diamond, but it does not resemble the diamond in form or in composition. It is very ground to a powder it would be a perfectly white sand. It is not an element, but is composed of nearly equal parts of iron and oxygen. It is a silicate. Every farmer knows that as soon as it is combined with an alkali and forms a salt. All the earths that compose a soil are alkalies, except silica, and sand. This possesses acid properties, and with a high temperature, unite with all these earths and form silicates of lime, potash, soda, magnesia and iron. If a soil was composed of pure silica, no plant could grow in it. He exhibited a specimen of the hydrate of silica taken from a pond in Philadelphia, where it exists in great quantity. It is exceedingly pulverulent, yet it passes across the human and gritty feeling of sand, and is a good filtering powder, but perfectly barren as a soil. Many of the stones used in jewelry, such as the jasper, agate, chalcedony, carnelian, are composed of silica colored by oxide of iron or manganese. He then exhibited some very large and splendid agates from Germany. Silica is found in most plants. The scouring rush, the rattan, corn and wheat stalk had an external coating of silicate of potash. Silica was by far the most abundant mineral in nature, and constituted three fourths of a granite soil.—He then exhibited a specimen of felspar, a component of granite. When pure it has a pearly lustre, and unlike quartz reflects the light from its surface like a mirror. It is translucent, but not transparent. It is distinguished from quartz by breaking up into rhomboidal fragments. It is composed of 65 per cent of silica, 12 potash, 20 alumina or clay, 1 lime, and 2 oxide of iron. So you see it is a chemical language a salt, a silicate of potash and alumina. Felspar is a crystalline substance, and alumina is a crystalline substance, and felspar which constitutes the principal part of the felspar. It is from the decomposition of this mineral that potash is formed in your soils.—All the earths except oxide of iron and manganese are white, and are colored by these. He exhibited mica or ore glass. This is composed of silica, 42, potash 10, alumina 12, magnesia 9, oxide of iron 22 per cent. Unite these minerals, quartz felspar and mica, and you have a granite. You can readily detect all three with the naked eye in granite. It now we pulverize this granite we shall have what is termed a granite soil which is so common in many parts of Maine. Such a soil is composed of (about) 50 per cent of silica, 13, potash 8, magnesia 1, lime 1.2, and oxide of iron 2. But granite has some accidental minerals composed of soda, phosphorus, sulphur, carbon and man-



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To Portland, 4 P. M.

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RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

Sabbath at 11 o'clock, A. M., and 7 P. M. in the following churches:—  
First Cong., Rev. Mr. WHEATWORTH.  
Second Cong., Rev. Mr. GARDNER.  
Universalist, Rev. Mr. GAINES.

MEETINGS FOR PRAYER.

On Monday evenings at 6 1/2 o'clock, at the vestry.  
On Tuesday evenings, Prayer Meeting Saturday evenings.

At a meeting of the Maine Board of Agriculture at Augusta, the following topic was discussed: The Composition of Soils, and the preparation and application of manures. We take the following from the Farmer. Dr. Tracy did not design to speak on the whole topic, but would confine his remarks to the composition of the soil, reserving the preparation and composition of manures for others. He had found but few farmers who comprehend the nature of soils, or who realized what the term meant. They do not clearly comprehend the meaning of the word element. He defined it as something that cannot ordinarily be changed in character except in combination with another element. Gold is an element. If at it, however it, and so long as it has no other element combined with it, it is unchanged; but if you unite another element, oxygen, with it, it becomes a dull, uninteresting looking substance. An element cannot wear out. A particle of oxygen may leave a rock and unite with a plant, and leaving the plant enter an animal, and leaving that, be as good as ever to unite again with the parent rock. It may thus change its appearance by combination, but can never be destroyed. He held up a quartz crystal; farmers sometimes call it a diamond, but it does not resemble the diamond in form or composition. It is a perfectly white solid. It is not an element, but is composed of nearly equal parts of a soft brown colored element called silica and oxygen. It is an acid readily combines with an alkali and forms a salt. All the earths that compose a soil are alkalies, except silica, or sand. This possesses acid properties, and will, at a high temperature, unite with all the earths and form silicates of lime, potash, soda, magnesia and iron. If a soil was composed of pure silica, no plant could grow in it. He exhibited a specimen of the hydrate of silica taken from a pond in Phillips, where it exists in great quantity. It is exceedingly pulverulent, yet it possesses the lustrous and gritty feeling of sand, and is a good polishing powder. It is perfectly barren as a soil. Most of the stones used in jewelry, garnets, jaspers, agates, &c., are silicates of iron or manganese. He then exhibited some very large and splendid agates from Germany. Silica is found in most plants. The scouring rush, the rattan, corn and wheat stalk had an external coating of silicates of potash. Silica was by far the most abundant mineral in nature, and constitutes three fourths of a granite soil. He then exhibited a specimen of felspar, a component of granite. When pure it has a pearly lustre, and unlike quartz reflects the light from its surface like a mirror. It is translucent, but not transparent. It is distinguished from quartz by breaking up into rhombohedral fragments. It is composed of 65 per cent of silica, 12 potash, 20 alumina or clay, 1 lime, and 2 oxide of iron. So you see it is a chemical language a salt, a silicate of potash and alumina. Felspar is a mixture of potash and alumina in a crucible, and you have a substance resembling felspar which constitutes the artificial teeth of the dentist. It is from the decomposition of this mineral that potash is formed in your soils. All the earths except oxide of iron and manganese are white, and are colored by these. He exhibited mica or singlass. This is composed of silica 42, potash 10, alumina 12, magnesia 9, oxide of iron 23 per cent. Unto these minerals, quartz felspar and mica, mechanically, and we have granite. You can readily detect all three with the naked eye in granite. If now we pulverize this granite we shall have what is termed a granite soil which is so common in many parts of Maine. Such a soil is composed of (about) silica 75 per cent, alumina 13, potash 8, magnesia 1, lime 1-2, and oxide of iron 2. But granite has some secondary minerals composed of soda, phosphorus, sulphur, carbon and man-

ganese, which are also found in a granite soil. But we sometimes find another mineral in granite instead of felspar. He then exhibited a specimen of hornblende. Such is the fact in the Quincy granite which contains hornblende, while the Hallowell granite contains mica. In the Quincy granite the potash is easily worked out on exposure, which gives the rock a dark color. There is another mineral resembling mica called talc. It contains a large amount of magnesia, 27 per cent. This, like all minerals, such as soapstone, fuller's earth and pepsin time which have a greasy feeling, contains a large per cent of magnesia. This element is found in your corn, wheat and potatoes. Argillaceous slate is found in immense quantities in Maine. Here is a specimen from Waterville. It is composed of silica and alumina and a small percentage of phosphate of lime, an element so necessary in wheat and corn. Slates are recognized and named from their composition. Thus clay, or argillaceous slate is recognized by the odor of clay which is emitted by breathing on it and then smelling it. If a slate contains a large per cent of mica, it is called mica slate, talc, talcose slate, siliceous slate. Bug iron ore, which is known by its color. Heat it and the water is driven off, and there is left a red substance known as red oxide. The soils on the Acronook are colored by the hydrate of iron. Blue clay would be white but for the iron in it. Phosphate of lime was then exhibited in a flesh colored specimen of felspar. It is found largely in the excrements of fowls and is an important element of guano. Sulphuret of iron is sometimes mistaken for gold, but the former can readily tell whether it is gold or not without going twenty miles to a chemist. Just place it on an anvil and strike it with a hammer, and if it is gold, it will flatten out, if any other yellow metal it will fly to pieces. Black tourmaline is sometimes mistaken for coal. It is found in granite where coal is never found. To test it, place it in the fire and see if it will burn. It will not, because it is a silicious mineral. But soils are not all directly composed of granite. If they are formed from the decomposition of clay slate we have a clay soil; if of limestone, a calcareous soil; if of silicious slate, a sandy soil, while a mixture of these forms a day or sandy loam. If now these elements are in a state of extreme mechanical divisibility, or in a state of solution, they become food for plants. Take the soil in this condition and expose it to the water, air and other gases, and it will produce a plant. Mus will grow on a decomposed rock containing silica and potash alone; that dies, crumbles down, decomposes, and forms a soil suitable for a plant of a still higher grade, which in turn decomposes, and forms a still better soil for plants of a still higher grade, which in due time are capable of supporting animal life. A knowledge of these few simple minerals and their composition would give the farmer a tolerably correct idea of the composition of the soil; and he trusted that those farmers present who were in the habit of studying works on a rural chemistry would not be compelled to lay down their book in disgust, because they could not comprehend the terms employed. He would not pretend to make agriculture an exact science, but he would approach it as nearly as possible.

EXPLOSION OF A WAR STEAMER.—The Charleston News prints a letter from Manila, Dec. 25, giving an account of a terrific explosion which occurred on board the war steamer General, a magnificent vessel, belonging to Victor Emmanuel, and chartered by the Spanish Government for service in the Philippine war. The steamer had just arrived in the harbor of Manila and had not entirely moved, her main anchor only being out. The explosion was tremendous, and after the smoke had dispersed, a raging fire was seen streaming from the vessel. The air was filled with shouts and cries from those on board. The writer says: "In the space of a minute hundreds of row boats were alongside to receive the passengers, and a take in those who had jumped overboard. Shortly they arrived on shore, but many awfully injured—so seriously that a few days after they died in the hospital. Some landed without shirts, others without pants, having been obliged to tear them off on account of the fire; many of the poor creatures had no hair left on their heads. In the space of five or ten minutes not a single person remained on board the burning vessel, and an order was given to the thousands of spectators present, as well as the inhabitants of the adjacent houses, to escape, for there was imminent danger. The detonation was caused by the explosion of grenades placed in the

EUREKA!

The Place to get BARGAINS is at

Harris's.

THE SUBSCRIBER, having purchased the stock in trade of the late firm of

HAYDEN & HARRIS,

Will sell his present stock of Goods, consisting of

STOVES, Fire-frames, CAULDRON KETTLES, OVEN, ASH & BOILER MOUTHS!

TIN WARE, DRY GOODS

Groceries, Crockery and Glass Ware, Kerosene Oil and Lamp Ware.

Fluid Lamp, Oil, Lard, Hard Ware, &c., &c., &c.,

At Cost!!

He will sell Cooking Stoves 10 per cent less than they can be purchased elsewhere.

PURE JAVA COFFEE! 12-2 Cts. per lb.

TEA! at 40 cents per lb.

Heavy Sheetting, Very Cheap.

Mr. H. is making large additions to his stock of Goods, and will sell as low as the lowest.

Country Produce wanted in exchange for Goods.

He has in his employ a superior TIN & SHEET IRON WORKER, and is prepared to mend all kinds of Tin Ware.

JOB WORK done to order at satisfactory prices.

Fluid and Oil Lamps altered to KEROSENE.

Orders from abroad promptly answered.

JOHN HARRIS.

BETHEL, Jan. 3, 1860.

Cross's WATER-PROOF BLACKING, For sale by JAMES NETTING.

PARIS MILLS FLOUR! THE SUBSCRIBERS HAVE recently purchased, and are now receiving a large quantity of NEW WHEAT, of a very superior quality.

They have made extensive additions to their buildings, and are now prepared to furnish

NEW FLOUR, put up in new barrels, and branded with their own names, of the different grades of Double Extra, Extra, Fancy &c., which they offered at wholesale and retail. They guarantee that no party can furnish a better article of Flour at the same price, and were here to be warranted as represented. Particular attention is given to the whole sale department of the Flour Business, and orders are respectfully solicited and will be promptly answered.

They also keep on hand a supply of

Corn, Rye, Barley, &c.

SHORTS by the ton and at retail.

All of which will be sold at lowest prices.

WOODMAN, PHELPS & CO.

South Paris, Oct. 20, 1859. 3m12.

BETHEL HOUSE, BETHEL HILL, Me.

THE SUBSCRIBER would inform the public that he has recently purchased this well-known House, and is prepared to accommodate the public generally with good board and lodgings at reasonable terms.

A carriage in constant attendance at the Depot for the conveyance of passengers.

W. F. LOVEJOY.

Horses and Carriages to let.

Deaths.

William H. H., Jan. 21st Catherine L. wife of Col. Oliver F. Brooks aged 68.

Job Printing at this Office.

R. A. CHAPMAN,

WOULD respectfully announce to the inhabitants of Bethel and its vicinity that he has on hand a large and well selected stock of

Fancy, English, Domestic and W. I. Goods,

well adapted to the present season.

Also: 800 bbls.

West Canada and Michigan FLOUR,

of different brands, all of which will be sold

Cheap for Cash, or PAY DOWN.

R. A. C. wants in exchange for Goods and Cash

5000 bushels Oats, 300 bushels White Beans, 10 tons of Pork, 2 tons Butter, 3 tons Dried apple, Rye

Corn, Clover Seed, Herds Grass Seed, Cuckers,

Poultry and Wool Skins.

Bethel, Dec. 9, 1859. 511f

T. T. T. True's Triumphant Tincture, Will give relief in Rheumatism, Cramp, Dropsy, Headache, Spinal Complaint, &c. Also Cough, Diarrhoea, Sore Throat, Influenza, &c.

True's COUGH SYRUP, is a sure remedy for all affections of the Throat and Lungs, such as Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Bleeding at the Lungs and Consumption.

True's Liniment! This is the safest and most powerful external remedy ever offered to the world.

Prepared on by DR. J. F. TRUE, LEWISTON FALLS, ME.

For sale by JAMES NETTING, Bethel.

R. A. FRYE, Counsellor & Attorney at Law, BETHEL HILL, Me.

R. J. D. LARRABEE, Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Artists' Materials, Engravings, Picture Frames, Looking Glasses, &c., &c.

A great variety of Beautiful Engravings, Mezzotints and Lithographs, English, French and American Drawing Materials

Of the most approved Manufacture.

Gilt & Red wood Picture Frames, Oval and Square of all Patterns. Supplies for the Green and Oriental Painting.

Also—New and Standard SHEET MUSIC, 69 Exchange St., Portland, Me.

NOTICE. All persons indebted to the subscriber or subscription to the Bethel Courier for the last year, are requested to make immediate payment. JAS. NETTING, Bethel, Nov. 25, 1859.

Corn, Beans, Wheat Rye, and all other kinds of Country Produce wanted in payment for the Courier.

Horse for Sale. 5 YEARS OLD, perfectly sound, kind and docile, and very fast on the road. For further particulars enquire of the subscriber. W. M. T. BROWN, Bethel, Jan. 20, 1860.

Chilblains. A SURE CURE for this troublesome complaint, sent by mail on receipt of 25 cts. and one stamp to prepay postage. The money will be returned if the remedy does not effect a speedy and permanent cure. Address, DR. E. H. LAKE, Wilton, Me.

F. S. CHANDLER,

NOW OFFERS GREAT INDUCEMENTS

To those who are in want of GOODS!

Usually kept at Country Stores.

DRESS GOODS!

DeLAINES, PLAIDS, PRINTS, LADIES CLOTH, in Brown, Black and Drabs, Scheuile Scarfs, SHAWLS, HOODS, ARMLETS, GAUETTE GLOVES, Watch Spring, Hosiery, Ladies are particularly invited to call before purchasing elsewhere.

CHOICE GROCERIES,

HATS, CAPS, BOOTS, SHOES, RUBBERS, &c. Crockery, Glass and Hard Ware, Confectionery of all kinds. Figs, Nuts, Raisins, Buns Honey, Lemons, &c.

STATIONERY,

READY-MADE CLOTHING,

FOWLING JACKS, Double and Single. Powder and Shot.

Kerosine Oil at \$1.00 per gallon.

Paints, Oil, TAR, Rosin, Putty, Chalk, &c.

APPLES. Wholesale or Retail.

All of which will be sold

Cheaper than the Lowest, or Cash or Country Produce.

P. S. A few more Horses, Carriages, Sleighs, Buffalo Robes, Bedsteads, Mattresses, &c., for sale at low Prices.

F. S. Chandler.

The Great Embroider to suit Me kind

TAKE THEM AND LIVE! USED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

HERRICK'S SUGAR COATED PILLS

And Kid Strengthening Plasters!!

ONE box of Herrick's Sugar Coated Pills, containing only 25 cents, will last a family 6 months, save twenty-five dollars in physicians' bills, 15 or more dollars in lost time, and most unfrequently, the life of some member of the family which cannot be estimated in dollars and cents.

Herrick's Kid Strengthening Plasters cure in a few days all kinds of weakness, such as the lungs, side and back, Rheumatism, Croup, and all other ailments. An equally strong Plaster, Sprayed with a beautiful blue dye, which subjects the wearer to no inconvenience, and each case will wear from one week to three months. Pills, family boxes, 25 cents. Plasters, 10, 15, 24 cents.

Dr. CASTLE'S Magnolia Catarrh Sanif, Cures Catarrh, Discharges, Sore Throat and Inflammation of the Nose and Ears; removes those disagreeable sensations resembling the whitening of steam, sound of distant waterfall, etc., and all complaints of the HEAD. Boxes 25 cents, with full directions.

HARRIS'S CONDITION POWDER For diseases of the Throat and C. Ute. The sale of these Powders is immense, the satisfaction they give unbounded. Large Packages 25 cents with full directions.

HERRICK'S MATCHLESS SUGAR COATED PILLS in large boxes, 25 cents. Five boxes \$1.00. Plasters on White Kid Leather, 18-24 cts. These have articles are sold by 25 Druggists, and by one or more Agents in every City, Town and Hamlet in the civilized world. Herrick's Pills and Plasters have been established 20 years, and have saved thousands from the grave and a fair work of money is not yet half complete. Try them.

HERRICK & CO., Albany N. Y. For Sale by F. C. KIMBALL and JAMES NETTING, 22-24 at Bethel. HOLT & PUTTER West Bethel. E. BLASHFIELD, traveling agent. 1726

DAVIS & BRADLEY, General Commission Merchants, AND DEALERS IN FLOUR AND CORN,

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FRESH OYSTERS, by the quart or gallon, constantly on hand and for sale by A. TWITCHELL.

OYSTERS served up at short notice in any style desired.

Bethel, Nov. 1859.



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